



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 5 November 1966



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DAILY BRIEF
5 NOVEMBER 1966

1. South Vietnam

Revolutionary Development Minister Thang is complaining that criticism of his program has recently become fashionable among Saigon leaders.

Some of this criticism comes from Ky and Thieu. It probably stems from resentment over the publicity accorded Thang and his programs. Thang's resignation would be a real impediment to revolutionary development since no equally qualified successor is in sight.

2. Communist China

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3. West Germany

Erhard intends to wield whatever influence he has left in his party in an effort to assure continuity in his policies.

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All eyes are on tomorrow's state elections in Hesse. Erhard's party has long been in the minority there. A further shrinking in its support would surely weaken Erhard's voice in his party councils still more.

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4. United Kingdom

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5. Colombia

Extremist student leaders and the Communists are reeling in the wake of President Lleras' strong reaction to last week's riot at the university. He has made it absolutely clear that he will put up with no more agitation against his democratic reform program. The Communists may well have suffered their biggest defeat in many years.

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6. Arab States

Right now the Arab states are in a state of barely suppressed turmoil. General apprehension over Israel's next move is only one factor. Another is the deepening hostility between the radical and conservative Arab rulers. The mutual defense pact signed yesterday between Egypt and Syria could be aimed at Jordan as much as at Israel.

King Husayn of Jordan is genuinely fearful that Israel may seize on the present poor state of his relations with Egypt, Syria, and Iraq to launch a full-scale attack on Jordan.

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